



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: Wednesday, July 19, 2006, -- 06 - 041
District: District 2 - Redding
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pit River Bridge Deck to be Replaced

REDDING – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 2 has awarded a \$16.2 million contract to replace the 64-year-old concrete bridge deck of the Pit River Bridge, also known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Bridge. Preliminary work has begun on the deck project. Crews continue to wrap up construction on a protective cover project under the deck that began in March.

Construction will be performed in five stages beginning with the demolition of the median barrier, scheduled to begin around August 10, 2006. Traffic will be reduced to one lane in both directions over the bridge during construction. With each stage motorists will shift into a new two lane configuration as construction progresses.

Speed reductions to 45 MPH through the Cone Zone/construction areas have been in effect since December 2005, for both safety and to help reduce further deterioration of the bridge deck. These speed reductions and the planned lane closures will be in effect during the entire project; completion scheduled for Fall 2008. Motorists can expect minor delays during normal commutes and the probability of significant delays during major Holidays. Caltrans will implement a public outreach campaign and traffic management plan to minimize any potential long term delays.

Contractor for this project is Golden State Bridge of Martinez, California.

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NOTE: *An electronic version of this news release is available on the Internet at the following web address:* http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news_releases.htm

